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OCT 14 2004

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prof. Richard C. Willson III

and Dr. Jason Murphy

Serial No.: 09/994,701

Filed: 11/06/2001

For: Nucleic Acid...Metal Affinity Chromatography

)Examiner

)Dr. David A. Lambertson

571 272 2771

Priority: Provis 60/246,292

)Room \_\_\_\_\_

Attorney Docket: 012AUS/UH2006

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USPTO Customer Number: 26830

)Art Unit 1636

Response Due: 16 October 2004

## AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FIRST ACTION

Commissioner for Patents

Box 1450 Group 1636

Arlington VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the first Office Action mailed 16 September 2004, consideration of the following remarks is solicited.

The undersigned Attorney certifies that this Document has been filed in the U.S. Post Office via fax to 703 872 9306 to the USPTO on 14 October 2004 (37 CFR 1.10).

Applicants' Attorney herein responds to the above Office Action requiring election of Group I, II or III. No additional fee is believed due as there are presented one addition to the total number of claims (21) as presented in the original filing; and one less independent claim (10) as presented in the original filing.

A new Power of Attorney is enclosed.